

From: Ledoux, David C
To: 'microsoft.atr(a)usdoj.gov'
Date: 1/28/02 9:00am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Dear Sir,

I am firmly OPPOSED to your proposed settlement of the Microsoft anti-trust case. The settlement is far too weak and will not prevent Microsoft from continuing to leverage their ever-growing monopoly until they control ALL of the computing industry and all of the Internet. I am sickened that my government would allow that to happen.

Microsoft has been found by the courts to be a MONOPOLY, which they built by engaging in illegal and immoral business practices, and they must be broken up and/or prevented from using that monopoly to further harm the free market system on which our nation depends for its prosperity.

Microsoft has, in the past, wriggled out of consent decrees, and there is no reason to think that they will not be able to work around this extremely weak settlement. A 3-member oversight committee (with one member from Microsoft!) is worthless to enforce this, as well. For this settlement to be anything other than a slap on the wrist, Microsoft must be forced to publish ALL of their APIs, and be forbidden from any and all anti-competitive licensing practices, just for a start. Their contracts with OEMs must be published and monitored by the courts to prevent such things as their dual-boot restriction, which the current settlement does not even address!

Finally, there should be language in the settlement by which Microsoft will be forced to publish ALL of the Windows source code if they do not comply 100% with the spirit and letter of the settlement.

Thank you for allowing me to comment on this.

Sincerely,

David C. LeDoux
Reston, VA

